



**TEXAS**  
Health and Human  
Services

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**Texas Department of State  
Health Services**

# **New Legislation**

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# New Legislation: HB 1823

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## HB 1823: Diacritical Marks

- HSC Sec. 191.009(b) The state registrar shall ensure that a vital statistics record issued under this title properly records any diacritical mark used in a person's name.
- TC Sec. 521.127 (b) The department shall ensure that an original or renewal driver's license or personal identification certificate issued under this chapter properly records any diacritical mark used in a person's name.



TEXAS  
Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State  
Health Services

# New Legislation: HB 1823

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## HB 1823: Diacritical Marks

- “Diacritical mark” means a mark used in Latin script to change the sound of the letter to which it is added or used to distinguish the meaning of the word in which the letter appears. The term includes accents, tildes, graves, umlauts, and cedillas [HSC 191.009(a), TC Sec. 521.127 (a)]



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Texas Department of State  
Health Services



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Health Services

# Diacritical Marks

- Accents
  - Acute accent to a letter (').
  - Example: Á, É, Í
- Tildes
  - Placed over a letter (~).
  - Example: Ñ, Ã, Õ
- Graves
  - Opposite of an acute accent (`).
  - Example: À, È, Ò.



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Services

Texas Department of State  
Health Services

# Diacritical Marks

- Umlauts
  - Two dots above a letter (..)
  - Examples: Ö, Ü, Ä
- Cedillas
  - Hook or tail (¸) added under certain letters.
  - Example: Ç, Ş, Ĵ (*façade*)
- ***Does not apply to "non-Latin" (Dano-Norwegian alphabet, Cyrillic, Kanji, etc.) characters: Ø Æ Å***

# New Legislation: SB 919

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## **SB 919: Amends HSC 193.005 to add:**

A physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse may only complete the medical certification for a death certificate or fetal death certificate under this section if:

- a patient who has executed a written certification of a terminal illness has elected to receive hospice care and is receiving hospice services, as defined under Chapter 142, from a qualified hospice provider; or
- a patient is receiving palliative care.



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Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State  
Health Services

# New Legislation: SB 919

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## **SB 919 Also clarifies “attending physician”**

- SB 919 adds language to make it more specific on what an “Attending physician” is. It adds “Decedent’s attending physician” as well as if the death occurred under the care “of the person in connection with the treatment”.
- This clarifies what we already instruct.
- Medical certification should be from the physician who was treated the decedent for what caused their death, not necessarily the doctor, PA or APRN who pronounced death or ER doctor.



TEXAS  
Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State  
Health Services



# New Legislation: Rider 36

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## Cause of Death Data Improvement

VSU will be conducting a study into the quality of cause of death data on death certificates. We will be examining current process of collecting cause of death information and any challenges relating to the quality of the information including:

- Accuracy and completeness,
- Medical certifier roles and perceptions; and
- Structural, procedural, and technological issues.



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Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State  
Health Services



# New Legislation: Rider 36

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## Cause of Death Data Improvement

We will be studying national standards regarding collection of cause of death information and convening a panel of experts.

DSHS shall submit a report of the findings by October 1, 2018



TEXAS  
Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State  
Health Services

# HB 555

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**Relating to an additional fee for issuing a Marriage License to OOS applicants.**

FC 2.009 (e) A [marriage] license issued by a county clerk under this section:

- (1) must identify the county in which the license is issued; and
- (2) may include the name of the county clerk.



TEXAS  
Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State  
Health Services

# HB 555

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**Relating to an additional fee for issuing a Marriage License to OOS applicants.**

HSC 194.0011 (a)...the [marriage license application] form must

- (1) require identification of the county in which the application is submitted; and
- (2) allow, but may not require, the name of the county clerk to appear on the application.

Our application has a space for the name of county clerk but we will accept it without that item being completed.



TEXAS  
Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State  
Health Services

# HB 555

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**Relating to an additional fee for issuing a Marriage License to OOS applicants.**

**Applies to license issued on or after January 1, 2019.**



TEXAS  
Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State  
Health Services

# HB 555

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**Relating to an additional fee for issuing a Marriage License to OOS applicants.**

LGC 118.011 states the county clerk may set and collect the following fee from any person:

(b)(4) Marriage License for Out-of-State Applicants (Sec. 118.018): \$100

Takes effective September 1, 2019



TEXAS  
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Texas Department of State  
Health Services

# HB 555

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**Relating to an additional fee for issuing a Marriage License to OOS applicants.**

LGC 118.018 (d) If neither applicant for a marriage license provides proof satisfactory to the county clerk that the applicant is a resident of this state, the county clerk may collect an additional fee of \$100 for issuing the marriage license.



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Texas Department of State  
Health Services

# SB 1705

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## Regarding underage applicants

- FC 2.009(a)(3)(A) and (B): The county clerk may not issue a license if either applicant is under 18 years of age and has not presented a court order granted by this state under Chapter 31 [of the Family Code] removing the disabilities of minority of the applicant for general purpose or, if the applicant is a nonresident minor, a certified copy of an order removing the disabilities of minority of the applicant for general purposes filed with this state under Section 31.007



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Texas Department of State  
Health Services